

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, August 15, 2017**

Scott Borthwick called the open meeting to order at 6:00 PM at the Canaan Emergency Operations Center. In attendance were Selectmen Scott Borthwick, Dave McAlister, Al Posnanski and TA Mike Samson. Others: Sean Sweeney, Chris Fournier, Elwin Neily

Hearing on Flood Mitigation.

The second and final Hearing on ideas to reduce flooding in the Village of Canaan was held on Tuesday, August 15, 2017. Prior to the Village Flood Study, a typical flood would result in 23 major structures flooded. Five of those would be flooded cellars. 12 buildings are commercial structures. The study looked at 10 options. All of the effective options involved a new underpass under Route 4 to pass more water under Route 4. All the effective options included spillways or large culverts to move more water out of Williams Field and around the lower trestle behind Dale Barney's house.

At the request of Michael Fogarty, Sean Sweeney of Headwaters Hydrology examined a 11th management strategy which was to widen a passage through rock outcroppings just upstream of the Grist Mill Hill Bridge. The review of the 11th option indicated that there was no real improvement for the Village.

Chris Fournier of HEB Engineers joined Sean Sweeney in discussing Options 2, 4, 9 and 10. All of these options use spillways and underpasses under the Route 4 Bridge by Williams Field. Option 2 was the only reasonable priced option in the original 10 at \$2.4 million. This uses all spillways and only 1 Route 4 crossing. Total of 7 buildings would be flooded of which 3 are cellars only.

The two engineers, Selectmen, and public weighed how many buildings would be protected by each option against the cost. There was also consideration of where the funds would come from. Both engineers thought that national competitive grant awards would be difficult. A variety of other funding options were also considered.

As a way of making the project more affordable and doable by next year, HEB suggested splitting the Route 4 portion off since it is most expensive.

OPTION 12 The reduced project would only have two or three spillways between the Route 4 Bridge and Grist Mill Hill. There would be no underpass under Route 4. As with Option 9, there would be a total of 5 buildings flooded of which 2 would be cellars only. The cost would be \$670,000 and a likely candidate for State Emergency Flooding Mitigation. Of the original 23 buildings that regularly flood, this plan would save 18 and 2 more would flood only in the cellar. Only 2 are commercial. The cost is very reasonable and only 12% of the expensive plan with almost the same results.

The lack of additional passage under Route 4 would continue to impact Canaan Village Pizza and slightly increase the water flow over part of Route 4 during a 100 year flood to a little over a foot in some areas by Canaan Village Pizza. None of the proposed plans eliminates Canaan Village Pizza Flooding. The plans do reduce the height of the flood waters by about

half. Other strategies will be used for Village Pizza. If the Route 4 Bridge was reconstructed in the future, the span could then be widened to increase the flow under the bridge to an appropriate amount.

Grant Hearing

There was discussion of the receipt of an additional \$135,000 in block grant funding which is planned for Prospect Hill culvert and paving Jones Hill Road. Also discussed was the plan to apply for \$75,000 in FEMA funding to repair road damage from the July 1st flood. Any excess from these funds that reimbursed the Town would be used to prepare a FEMA mitigation grant. Dave McAlister moved to approve the receipt of the two grants and to expend as proposed. Second by Al Posnanski. Unanimously approved.

Proposed Wind Turbine Ordinance

A draft wind turbine ordinance has been received and will be posted for discussion on the Town's web site.

Hazard Mitigation Plan

The recently adopted Hazard Mitigation Plan has been posted on the Town web site for public review.

Lawsuit Canaan Cash Market

A suit has been filed by the heirs of the Thomas Neily estate. There is no news at this point.

Repairs to Meeting House

During the recent process to scrape and paint the Meeting House at least 30 to 50 clapboards were discovered to be rotten. A RFB is being prepared. It will be subject to LCHIP review.

Posting Cozy Corner

The owners of Dishin It Out have made statements indicating that they believe they own more property than they really do. Samson suggested showing them the survey of the Town property, then seeking a lease of the lot by them or in the alternative posting the property for a brief period of time. The Board agreed by consensus.

Police Negotiations

Samson indicated that Police Union negotiations will be starting on September 12 at 6 PM at the EOC.

Cardigan Mountain School Array

The business manager for CMS had presented a request for the Board to approve a payment in lieu of taxes on the solar array whereby CMS will pay taxes for the portion of the assessed valuation that is not related to tax exempt education programs. That would currently be 17.4% of the total valuation. Samson indicated that the CMS interest right now is a lease purchase but may be full ownership within the next 5 years. RSA 72:74 allows for the Town to treat a lease situation like CMS' situation as if they owned the array. The PILOT would state the terms for the agreement that they would pay on the taxable portion. The Town would still get about \$14,000 in taxes on the array and the land.

The Board unanimously agreed to the proposal and Samson was directed to draft the Agreement.

School Apportionment

Samson indicated that he had sent out a notice of the anticipated tax increases for the school this year and the Apportionment Committee's unwillingness to modify the apportionment formula.

Other Business

Use of Canaan Meeting House by Friends of Mascoma. The Board allowed the Friends of Mascoma to use the Meeting House provided there was no alcohol or food in the building, they had a porta potty on the premises to supplement the bathroom, and they notified the police department.

The Board decided not to purchase a hydraulic hammer for the excavator but did authorize a single month's rental of a hammer.

Poor House BBQ was authorized to use the common on the days that the Farmers Market operated for the whole day but they would have to pay \$25 if they used water and/or electricity. All actions by consensus.

At 8:06 PM Selectman Al Posnanski moved to enter non-public meeting to discuss personnel evaluation. Dave McAlister seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

At 8:15 PM Selectman McAlister moved to exit non-public meeting, seconded by Posnanski and it was unanimously passed.

At 8:16 Selectman Posnanski moved to seal the minutes. McAlister seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

At 8:16 PM Selectman Al Posnanski moved to adjourn. Second by McAlister. Unanimously approved.

Scott Borthwick, Chairman

David McAlister

Al Posnanski
Canaan Board of Selectmen